AN

ABSTRACT,

OR

ABBREVIATION

Of (some Few of the)

Many (Later and Former)

TESTIMONYS

FROM THE

Inhabitants

OF

NEW-JERSEY,

And Other

Eminent Persons.

Who have Wrote particularly concerning

That PLACE.

London, Printed by *Thomas Milbourn*, in the Year, 16[illegible]

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

THE PREFACE.

Ingenuous Reader,

IT's not intended, by Publishing the Truth contained in these following Sheets, thereby to disparage any other Colony already Settled, or to be Settled in these Parts of America; but to contradict the Disingenuous, and False Reports of some Men, who have made it their Business to speak unjustly of New-Jersey, and Our Proceedings therein: As though the Methods of Settlement were Confused and Uncertain, no Man knowing his Own Land, and several such idle Lying Stories. Therefore, to satisfye the Reasonable and Unprejudiced, who desire to be rightly inform'd, the Manner or Method of Our Settlements are thus: The Country from the Mouth (that is, from the Sea) to the Head of Delaware-River, is about Two Hundred and Fifty Miles in Length, and is divided into One Hundred Shares, or Proprieties; as may be seen by the Deeds made to every Purchaser thereof; every Proprietor naturally having a Considerable Quantity of his Land lying by the River-side: I say, every Proprietor having a great Part of his Propriety contigious to that Noble and Navigable River of Delaware, is an Accomodation of no small Value.

Then, as to the Government; one out of each of these Hundred Proprieties, is to be freely chosen by the Inhabitants thereof, to meet and sit as a General-Assembly, to make and alter Laws, to hear and redress all manner of Grievances whatsoever: And not any, the least Tax, either in Money or Goods, or any other Services, upon any Pretence whatsoever, to be imposed on the People, but by the Consent of these their Representatives in the General-Assembly: And this Assembly is to meet Annually upon a Day certain, as is Irrevocably ordained in one of the Chapters of Our General Concessions, as a Fundamen-
'. never to Alter or Change.

The Number of Aeres in one of these Proprieties, *is about* Twenty Thousand; *though some (and those no ordinary Surveyors neither) have judged it to be almost as much more: But whether the Number be more or less, I shall not exactly affirm; But this I may assert, (and it ought to be considered by every Considering* Purchaser) *That a large Share of their Land being certain to lye upon so Brave and Navigable a* River *as* Delaware *is known to be, is in it self very Considerable, and may be vastly Advantagious to such* Purchasers, *who at present, do, or hereafter shall Incline to Trade. And upon which* River *are several Good Towns and Settlements already,* (viz.) Burlington, Northampton, Monmouth, Wellingbrough, Mansfield, Springton, Nottingham, Salem, *and Others: In some whereof, are Considerable Manufacturies and Trade Established and Establishing: So that,* New-Jersey *in Reality is another thing, than what it was within these Seven Years, before it was Peopled and Settled in that Order and Freedom as now it is; as some of these following* LETTERS *(according to Reason) do testify, That those that go to* New-Jersey *now, need not undergoe any of the Difficulties that They did, who went over at first, when they had neither House nor Corn of their Own: But now they have Good of Both, and not only sufficient for Themselves, but considerably to spare, for the Accommodating of such that shall come to Inhabit among them, until they can provide of Their Own.*

AN

AN Abstract or Abbreviation OF Some Few of the Many (Later and Former) Testimonies, &c.

A Letter to a Merchant in London.

SIR,

HAving from the Discourse we had formerly, about the *South-West-Part* of *New-Jersey*, lying upon the *Bay* and *River* of *Delaware*, perceived a great Desire in you, to be particularly informed thereof, from the Observations I had either made My Self, in my several Voyages into those Parts, or from the Collections I took from the *English*, *Swedes*, or *Hollanders*; and perceiving several of your Ingenious, Publick-spirited *Friends* were ingaged therein with *Your Self*, and that it was to be looked upon no longer for your own particular Curiosity, but as a National Concern, from the Thriving Genius of such Worthy Undertakers: Which, together with the Kindness I bear to Your Self, and the Person that made our Acquaintance, obliged Me, as soon as I could, to comply with your Commands.

Then be pleased to know, that the Lord *Delaware*, Governor of *Virginia*, *Anno* 1611. during his Stay in those Parts, spent one whole *Summer* in making a particular Search of all that Part of *America*; lying, and being Situate betwixt *Cape-Augustine* on the *South-West*, to *Cape-Porpus* on the *North-East*, which is from 28. to 44. Degrees of *North-Latitude*, and 430. Leagues by that Shoar; and having visited and viewed all the Remarkable *Bays* and *Rivers*, as also, particularly Inspected the *Clime* and *Soyl* of all those Parts, pitched upon this Place, which is now called

New-Jersey; which *River* the Lord *Delaware* called after his own Name, and by which the *English* have known it ever since. And it is not to be questioned, had not Death prevented his Purposes, but that he had prevailed with the then *Lords-Commissioners*, (called the *Virginia-Company*) to have removed that *Colony* to this Place: Which, without doubt, had prevented the Death of very many Thousands of the *English Nation*; who have, since that time, found their Graves in *Virginia*, by reason of the many *Boggs*, *Swamps*, and *Standing-Waters*, which corrupt the Air of the *Country*. And to shew you, that the Lord *Delaware* was not singular in this Point, see the Character given of it by *Jeronama Beeckman* of *Stetin*, in a *Tract* of his Printed *Anno* 1636. This *Beeckman* was sent thither with a Great *Cargoe* from *Amsterdam* by *John Lussingen*, and *Peter Coyman*, Eminent Merchants of that City; who trusted him with all their Concern, Laden on Two Ships, the *Orania*, and the *Ickeabome*; who Return'd in about *Fourteen* Months, bringing them Back in all sorts of *Furs*, *Skins*, and *Peltry*, clear Profit *One Hundred* and *Thirty* Pounds, *per Cent*.

Sir, Thus much in General; but to come to Particulars:

First, This *Province* (I mean the *South-West-Part* of it, bordering upon the *River* of *Delaware*) is Situate parallel to the most Happy of the *East* and *Western* Parts of the World; and is naturally stored with all Sorts of Timber, and other Materials for the Building and Equipping of Ships, Structure of Houses, making of Cabinets, and all other Curious Joyner's Work.

Secondly, There is *Sumach*, and several other Drugs for the Use of *Dyers*; besides, some Trees there are, that produce both *Gums*, and *Medicinal Oyls*, as is observed by Doctor *Adrian Vander-dunke*, who searched that *Country* at his own proper Charge.

Thirdly, That there is all Sorts of *English-Corn*, and may be Two Harvests of several Sorts of *Grain*, in one Year: As also, that a Poor Man by his Reasonable Labour, can in the same Space of Time make *Fifteen Thousand* Pipe-Staves, which are worth on the Place *Sixty* Pounds; but at the *Canaries*, *Three Hundred* Pounds; which, according to an ordinary Calculation, is but Three Weeks Sail, and the Transportation is accounted but half at most.

Fourthly, That in this *Province* there is not only as good *Iron-Mines* as are in any Parts of the World; but also, great Conveniency from the Multitude of *Brooks* for *Iron-Mills*; which in the making thereof, would also clear the Ground of *Wood*, and fit it for Planting.

Fifthly,

Fifthly, That *Vines* grow naturally all over this *Province*; of which, Wild as they are, *Wines*, and very Good *Brandy* have been made: And, I am well assured, if those *Vines* were Transplanted and Cultivated accordingly, there might be Rich and Generous *Wines* made in the *West-Part* of *New-Jersey*: But if *Vine-Stocks* of the *Greek*, *Calabrian*, and *Cyprian*, with the *Candian-Grapes*, were Transplanted into this *Province*, (those *Countries* where these *Grapes* are in Perfection, lying parallel to This) there would certainly be a Staple, which may enrich both *England*, and all those Countries, to the Envy of *France* and *Spain*.

Sixthly, That the Art, Use, and Excellency of the *Silk-Worm* might be had in this *Province*, with great Conveniency; the *Mulberry-Trees* growing there Wild, very numerous, and the Leaves to be had for gathering; whereas the *French* Nobility and Gentry make a Great Revenue of *Mulberry-Trees*; besides their Fruits, the Leaves of every Tree being Farmed in *Languedoc* and *Provence*, as in Goodness, from *Five* Shillings to *Twenty* Shillings, and upwards, *per Annum*. The Duke of *Tuscany* raised *Anno* 1671. *Sixty Thousand* Ducats on the Leaves of *Mulberry-Trees* alone, as he doth Yearly about the same Sum.

Monsieur Le Telliere, Great Uncle to the *Marquess* of *Lovoy*, Secretary of State to the present *French King*, writ Observations on this Subject, *Anno* 1636. affirming, That *Silk-Worms* were Transported out of *Asia* into *Italy*, in the Year 1540. and that they had not been in *Languedoc* and *Provence* in *France* above *Sixty* Years; & yet the Revenue of *Silk* in those *Provinces*, was more worth both to the *King* and *Nobility*, than the Product of *Wine*, *Oyl*, *Woad*, and all other Fruits whatsoever.

Monsieur Agume, in his Observations on that Subject Printed at *Lyons*, *Anno* 1654. sayes, That in *Forty* Years, the making of *Silk* in the *South* of *France*, had brought into the *Exchecquer* or *Financy* of that *Crown*, *Fifty Seven* Millions of *Livers*, which is about *One Hundred* and *Twenty Thousand* Pounds, *per Annum*, Custom for the Raw *Silk* only. It is admirable to behold, how these *Silk-Worms* store up the Disposing-Matter, from whence the *Silk* comes; the which, by an Incomprehensible Mystery of Nature, they Vomit forth of their Mouths, and spin out of their Bowels: And whatever is done of this kind in *France*, may much more, and to greater Advantage be accomplished in the *South-West-Part* of *New-Jersey*, whose Position of *Latitude* is nearer the *Sun*, than any Part of *France*.

The

The *Air* of this *Province* is very Serene, Sweet, and Wholſome, which renders the *Clime* much more agreeable to *European* Bodies, than the ſevere Colds of *New-England*, or the ſulphurous Heat in *Virginia*; where, I ſay, the Bogs, Marſhes, and corrupt Standing-Waters, have ever been very Noxious to the Planter.

The Soyl of this *Province* is very Rich and Fruitful; and, for the moſt part, upon a Riſing Level; and where it is interlaced with Hills, they are rather Gradual Proſpects, than troubleſom Aſcents for above an Hundred Miles from the Sea. And where it is any whit Mountainous or Rocky, there are alſo Valleys extream Rich and Fertile: Beſides, thoſe Mountains have ſtore of *Black-Lead*, *Allom*, *Sulphur*, *Copper*, &c. the which is confirmed by the Writings of *Tarrapha*, and *Monſieur Gallane*, Son to the preſent *Preſident of Nants*, a Perſon of great Quality, who ſpent the Years 1668, 69, and 70. in the Diſcovery of moſt of the *Lakes*, *Mountains*, and *Countries*, *Weſt*, from *Quebeck* to the *Bay* of *Florida*, which is beyond *Carolina*.

This *Gentleman* gave me leave to read his *Journal*; wherein he affirms, That betwixt the Head of *Delaware*, and the *Lake Ontaria*, there are Mines of *Sulphur*, *Allom*, *Lead*, *Copper*, &c.

Sir, I mention This as well for your own Curioſity, as that ſuch a Trade may be worth looking after, when it ſhall pleaſe *God*, to put thoſe that ſettle your *Colony*, in a condition to manage it; which, I do aſſure you, in due time may be done, to Immenſe Advantage.

And now, *Sir*, I ſhall come to ſome other Obſervations of my own, having formerly drawn a particular *Map* of your *Colony* with my own Hand, by the Sea, from *Sandy*-point, and up the *River*, to the *Iſle* of *Matimicocks*; and, for my own Satisfaction, did (as of other Parts of *America*) ever make it my Buſineſs to diſcover not only the Scituation of Places; but alſo, the Original Diſcoverers, the ſeveral Governors, and their reſpective Fortunes; the moſt Remarkable Diſtempers, or Diſeaſes; the Commodities, both Natural and Accidental; what Advantage might be made by Trade; what Places were more or leſs Tenable by Nature, and what made Strong by Fortification; in what Manner, and to what Degree. Moreover, how thoſe *Colonies* have Proſpered or Declined in Trade, Increaſed or Decreaſed in Number of Inhabitants from *Europe*, and the proper Cauſes thereof; together, with the Governments, Cuſtoms, and Commodities of the ſeveral *Indian-Natives*; and what

Advan-

Advantage might be made of those Innocent, Good-natur'd *Creatures*, in point of Trade, &c.

And this *South-West-Part* of *New-West-Jersey*, came not only under this my General Survey; but having had a Concern in those Parts with the *Dutch*, it fell more particularly under my Consideration. The *Longitude* of this Place is Calculated to be from *Three Hundred* and *Eleven*, to *Three Hundred* and *Eight* Degrees; and bounded betwixt *Thirty-Nine* and *Forty-Three* Degrees of *Latitude North*, from the *Aequator*.

Sir, Having before spoken of the Agreeableness of the *Air*; I shall only say in general, that the *West-Part* of *New-Jersey*, is by Nature sliced into a bundance of *Rivers* and *Riv'lets*, which every way glide in Deep and Navigable *Channels*, either for Shipping or Boats, betwixt the Breast of this Your plentiful Country; which highly contributes to its Conveniency, Beauty, and Fertility. These *Rivers* are also abundantly stored with all the *species* of the *Fish* of *Europe*, and both larger and better tasted; being great Quantities of *Sturgeon* in the *River* of *Delaware*, with divers other *Fish* peculiar only to that Clime; as *Quittars*, *Dramps*, *Porgies* or *Sheep-Heads*, *Cony-Fish*-*Misyqua's*, & many others not seen in any Part of *Europe*, whose names (at present) I remember not; but these in particular are delicate *Fish*.

As also, *Land* and *Sea-Foul* in abundance of all the sorts in *Europe*, and some peculiar to that *Country* (as of *Fish*) not any where in the *European* World that ever I saw. The *Fruits* of your *Province* are all sorts of Delicate *Melons*, *Apples*, *Pears*, *Damsons*; and all other sorts of *Plumbs*, *Apricocks*, *Peaches*, and *Malagotoons*, *Cherries* of several kinds, *Quinces*, *Marucas*, *Grapes* of Six sorts I have seen, *Puchamines*, *Walnuts*, *Chesnuts*, *Strawberries*, *Rasberries*, *Currans Red* and *White*, *Gooseberries*, and a great many other *Wild-Fruits*: As also, vast plenty of *Mulberries*, all sorts of Roots of *England*, and *Potato's* very good, with all sorts of *Herbs* both for *Physick*, and the *Kitchin*, in great Perfection, and no less Plenty. There is also *Saxafras*, *Sarsaparilla*, and several other Plants of great vertue, grow Naturally in this *Province*.

Sir, The *Western-Part* of *New-Jersey*, situate upon the *River of Delaware*, (to the Head whereof I understand Mr. *Billing's* Grant reaches) so far as I know, is not Second to any Part of *America*; and, in due time, by such Industrious Undertakers as Your Self, and *Friends* are, may not be Inferior to many Parts of the World: And this I further know, that with Common and Reasonable Care,

there may not (in a few Years) only be to ſpare *Horſes*, *Beef*, *Pork*, *Flower*, *Biſket*, *Peaſe*, &c. but this *Country* will alſo produce *Honey*, *Wax*, *Silk*, *Hemp*, *Flax*, *Hops*, *Woad*, and *Rape-ſeed*, *Madder*, *Pot-Aſhes*, *Anniſeed*, and *Salt*; *Hides* Raw or Tanned; and there is a vaſt large Creature call'd a *Mooſe*, of whoſe Skins are made Excellent *Buff*, and other *Deer*-Skins, and all ſorts of *Peltry* in great Plenty; beſides the Natural Product of *Pitch*, *Tarr*, *Roſin*, *Turpentine*, &c.

And, as for *Furrs*; there is *Beaver*, *Black Fox*, *Otter*, and divers other ſorts: As alſo, the *Tobacco* is very Good upon the *River* of *Delaware*. Beſides what I have mentioned, there may be good Fiſhing for *Cod* and *Cusk*, which are to be found on a Fiſhing-ground, from the *South-Part* of the *Shoald*, that lyes of *Barnagate*, beginning at Seven Fathom Water, and trending *South* and by *Weſt*, Nine Leagues in Length; there being great Plenty of well grown *Fiſh*, as I my ſelf, and ſeveral others have found by Experience.

Upon the whole Matter, this *Province* affords all that is either for Neceſſity, Convenience, Profit, or for the Pleaſure of Humane Life.

Sir, I have herewith ſent you a *Prophecy* of Pious Mr. *Herbert*'s, a Man as Learned as Great in his Quality, being the Earl of *Cherbury*'s Brother, and *Oratour* to the Univerſity of *Cambridge*, written many Years ſince.

Religion *ſtands on Tip-toe in Our Land,*
Ready to paſs to the American-Strand.
When height of Malice, and prodigious Luſts,
Impudent Sinning, Witchcraſts, and Diſtruſts,
(The Mark of Future Bane) ſhall fill our Cup
Unto the Brim, and make our Meaſure up:
When Sin ſhall ſwallow Tyber, *and the* Thames
By Letting in them Both, Pollutes her Streams:
When Italy *of Us ſhall have her Will,*
And all her Kalender of Sins fulfill;
Whereby one may fore-tell, what Sins next Year
Shall both in France *and* England *Domineer:*
Then ſhall Religion *into* America *flee;*
They have their Times of Goſpel, *ev'n as We.*

I am, Sir, *with all Sincerity your Affectionate Friend, & Humble Servant,*

J. Scott.

From

From Burlington *in* Delaware-*River, the* 26th. *of* 8. *Mon.* 1677.
An Abſtract of a Letter wrote to Henry Stacy.

Dear Friend!

THrough the Mercy of *God*, we are ſafely Arrived at *New-Jerſey*. My Wife, and all Mine are very well; and we have our Healths rather better *Here*, than we had in *England*: Indeed, the *Country* is ſo likely, that I do not ſee, how it can reaſonably be found fault with. As far as I perceive, all of the Things we heard of it in *England*, are very true; and I wiſh, that many People (that are in Straits) in *England*, were *Here*: *Here* is Good Land enough lyes void, would ſerve many *Thouſands* of Families; and we think, if they cannot Live *Here*, they can hardly Live in any Place in the World. But we do not deſire to perſwade any to come, but ſuch as are well ſatisfied in their own Minds. A Town-Lot is laid out for us in *Burlington*, which is a Convenient Place for a Trade: It is about *One Hundred* and *Fifty* Miles up the *River of Delaware*. The *Country*, and *Air*, ſeems to be very agreeable to our Bodies; and we have very Good Stomachs to our Victuals: And *Here* is plenty of Proviſion in the *Country*, plenty of *Fiſh* and *Fowl*, and Good *Veniſon* very plentiful, and much better than Ours in *England*; for it eats not ſo dry, but is full of Gravy, like Fat Young *Beef*. You that come after us, need not fear the Trouble that We have had: For now *here* is Land ready divided againſt You come. The *Indians* are very Loving to Us, except here and there one, when they have gotten Strong Liquors in their Heads, which they now greatly love. But for the *Country*, in ſhort, I like it very well: And I do believe, that this *River of Delaware*, is as good a *River* as moſt is in the World; it exceeds the *River of Thames* by many Degrees.

Here is a *Town* laid out for *Twenty Proprieties*, and a ſtrait Line drawn from the *River*-ſide up the Land; which is to be the main Street, and a Market-place about the Middle; and the *York-ſhire Ten Proprietors* are to build one Side, and the *London Ten* the other Side: And they have ordered one Street to be made along the *River*-ſide, which is not divided with the Reſt, but in ſmall Lots by it ſelf; and every one that hath any Part in a Propriety, is to have his Share in it. The *Town-Lots* for every Propriety, will be

about *Ten* or *Eleven* Acres, which is only for a Houſe, Orchard, and Gardens; and the Corn and Paſture-Ground is to be laid out in great Quantities

I am thy Loving Friend,

Directed for Henry Stacy, *in* Grace-Church-Street.

John Cripps.

Thomas Hooton *to his wife, 29th. 8th. Month,* 1677.

My Dear!

I Am, at this preſent, at the Town call'd *Burlington,* where our Land is; and it is ordered to be a Town for the *Ten Yorkſhire,* and *Ten London* Proprietors. I like the Place well; our *Lot* is the Second next the Water-ſide: It's like to be a Healthful Place, and very pleaſant to Live in. I came hither Yeſter-day, being the *Twenty-Seventh* of *October,* with ſome *Friends* that were going to *New-York.* I am to be at *Thomas Olive's* Houſe, till ſuch time I can provide better for my Self. I do intend to build a Houſe, and get ſome Corn into the Ground. And now, my Dear, I know not how to write to thee, concerning thy Coming, or not coming *Hither.* The Place I like very well; and I do believe, that we may live *Here* very well. But if the Place be not made Free, (I mean, as as to the *Cuſtoms,* and † *Government*) then it will not be ſo well, and may hinder many that have Deſires to come. But if thou underſtand that thoſe *Two* Things be clear'd, then thou may take thy Opportunity of coming this *Summer.* I reſt

† *Since when the Cuſtoms are taken off, and the Government ſettled.*

Thy truly Loving Husband,

Thomas Hooton.

Boſton,

Boſton, *Auguſt the* 14*th.* 1677. [*Verbatim.*]

Dear Father and Mother!

I Can now give you a farther Account concerning this *Country*; for I have Travelled *Three* or *Four Hundred* Miles an End, the beſt Part of it by Land. I have been in *New-Jerſey*, and like that Place very well; and I am ſure, it is the Fruitfulleſt Place in theſe Parts, and the Pleaſanteſt to dwell in: For there is all ſorts of Proviſion as plentiful as it is in *England*; There wants nothing but good Honeſt People to Inhabit it. The Ship that was bound for *New-Jerſey*, arrived about the *Second* or *Third* Day of this Month; I was in *New-Jerſey*, when She came in; I was the Firſt, that ſaw Her: So the next Day, I went Aboard of Her; and the People told me, They were *Eight* Weeks at Sea; and the firſt Land they made, was *Cape-Codd* in *New-England*, which was an *Hundred Leagues* out of their way: And they were at a great Loſs for want of a *Pilot* to carry them along the Shore; but while they were at *Sea*, they wanted for nothing. Now I have ſeen moſt of theſe Parts hereabout; and, to my thinking, *New-Jerſey* exceeds them All for good Land, good Timber, good Meadow, and other good Conveniences that are *Here:* For *One* Acre in this Place, is worth half a dozen in other Places that lye *Hereabouts*; and I could be very glad, that You and Your Family were ſafe arrived *Here*. But, I hope, I ſhall ſee you all in *London* within theſe *Three* Months; and then I ſhall give you a better Account concerning our Affairs. So, having no more at preſent to trouble you with, I reſt, and remain

Your Dutiful Son,

Theſe for Mr. Henry Warren, *in* Fenchurch-Street, *this deliver with Care, I pray.*

Ephraim Warren.

New-Jerſey, 20*th.* 2*d. Month*, 1678. [*This is Extractim.*]

Dear Friends!

I Doubt not, but it will be great Satisfaction to You, to hear of Mine, and the reſt of *Friends* Paſſage to, and ſafe Arrival in *New-Jerſey*.

We took Ship the *Sixteenth* of *November*, and made the Land of *New-Jersey* in *Thirty-Four* Dayes. [*And many other Things he writes of, needless here to be mentioned: But of the* Country *thus.*]

Now *Friends*, as to this *Country*, there has been much said by several Persons in Commendation thereof, both as to the Increase of all sorts of *Grains* and *Fruits*; as also, to the Plenty of *Fish*, *Fowl*, *Deer*, *Swine*, &c. that I shall not need to add any thing to it: But, in short, this I have to say; That I do not know any one thing to fall short of what has been Reported of this *Province*; but that more might truly have been said of its pleasant Situation, wholsome Air, and general and great Increase of all things planted; and especially, of *Indian-Corn*, which is a very good and serviceable Grain many wayes. The *English Wheat* and *Barley* primely Good; but *Rye* and *Pease*, much better than any I ever saw in *England* or *Ireland*. I doubt not, but you have had an Account of all other Matters, before this (by those who came to *Jersey* before Me) comes to your Hands: And I have no other end in this, than keeping you from the rash Censures of People that know it not; as also, for the Good and Prosperity of this Good Country, *&c.*

Subscribed, Your Friend,

Directed for William Penn, Gawen Lawry, *&* Edward Billinge. } William Clark.

Weymouth, 28*th.* 6*th. Month*, 1678. [*Verbatim.*]

A Letter from Thomas Budd, *who had then been at* New-Jersey, *and is gone thither again with his Wife and Family.*

Dear Friend, Gawen Lawry!

I Am safely come from *New-Jersey*, where I left *Friends* in Health, who like the *Country* very well. We have set down both Trades and Husbandmen together in the Island call'd *Chygoe's-Island*; where we have built, and are building many Houses; but it's too strait, to contain so many People, as are already upon it. I suppose, I have Travelled, more in *New-Jersey*, than any other Person that came lately; which I did at my own proper Charge, that I might be able to satisfie my Self, and Acquaintance, concerning the *Country*. I intend to be shortly

ſhortly in *London*, and then may give a fuller Account of all Proceedings. And I doubt not, but *New-Jerſey* will be as thriving a Place, as any is in *America*. I deſire Information what *Ships* are going, or to go thither this Year; which is the Needful, at preſent, from

Thy Dear Friend,

Superſcrib'd for Gawen Lawry, *in* George-Yard, *in* Lombard-Street, *Merchant.* } Thomas Budd.

Burlington *in* New-Jerſey, *upon the River* Delaware, *the* 19th. *of the* 4th. *Moneth call'd* June, 1678.

An Extract of a Letter written by John Crips, *to his Brother and Siſter.*

Dear & Loving Brother & Siſter!

I Have received both your Letters, wherein I underſtand your Faith concerning this *Country* is much ſhaken through ſeveral falſe Reports given thereof; which may be proved falſe under the *hands* of ſeveral good *Friends*, I hope as worthy to be believed as that Reporter; and ſuch as have had more Experience of this Place, than he had or could have in ſo ſhort a time. Beſides, he came amongſt us ſhortly after our coming hither, when things were not ſettl'd in that Order amongſt us as now they are. Neither indeed did he find ſuch Entertainment from ſome, as he expected; which *I* ſuppoſe makes him ſpeak the worſt he can deviſe of this Place. But *I* queſtion not, but his Reports will in a ſhort time be wip'd away: Some of which, in my Knowledge, are groſs Lyes, as well as Contradictions to his own VVords. For *I* remember, when *I* Travelled with him through Part of *New-Jerſey*, he confeſſed, That much of this Land was as good or better, than the Land in *Road-Iſland*.

And it's really my judgment that thoſe people that cannot be contented with ſuch a Country, and ſuch Land as this is, they are not worthy to come here. And this I can truly tell you if I were now in *England* with you my Friends, (and which I ſhould be very glad to ſee) yet if all *I* had in the World would but bring me hither, *I* ſhould freely leave You, and my Native-Country, and come to *New-Jerſey* again; which *I* have ſaid many a time heretofore; but now *I*

write

write it under my Hand; and it's really the Truth, whether you will believe it or not. And farther, I can truly tell you, That *I* desire not, nor dare not to write the least Untruth to draw you, or any others to this Place: But am resolved, if I never see your Face more, to leave you to your own Freedom in the *Lord*. But *I* hope, you are not insensible of my Love, and Desires for You; though *I* am (*I* say) constrain'd to Forbear perswading You, or any one else, against their own Freedoms: yet I think it my Duty to let You, and all Men know the Truth of things as near as *I* can.

Your Letter saith, it's reported, *the water is not so good as in England*. I do not remember, that ever I tasted better water in any part of *England*, than the springs of this Place do yeild; of which is made very good *beer*, and *Ale*. And here is also *Wine* and *Sider*. And whereas your Letter to me saith, *several have come back from this Country to England*; Two or Three, I suppose, there are Lazy idle persons, that have done so. But on the other hand here are several persons, Men of Estates, that have been *here*, and have gone back to *England*, and sold their Estates, and return'd with their whole families hither again; which methinks, should take many of these Scruples out of the way, if nothing else were said or done in praise of this *Country*. But, I suppose, there are many in *England*, that desire to hear ill of this Place, because they would keep their *Friends* there with them, and they think, we never write enough of the bad Properties of the *Country* and *Vermin* in it. Now, this I may say in short, That here are *Bears*, *Wolves*, *Foxes*, *Rattle-snakes*, and several other Creatures, (I do believe) because I see the *Indians* have such Skins to sell. But I have Travelled several *hundreds* of Miles to and fro, and I never (to my knowledge) saw one of those Creatures, except two *Rattle-snakes*, and I kill'd them both. I suppose, the Fear of those Creatures in *England*, is far worse to some *there*, than the Hurt of them is *here*. And as for the *Muskeeto-Fly*, we are not troubled with them in this Place; our Land for the most part Lying high and healthy, and they for the most part are in Law Boggy ground. *Thomas Budd*, and his Family are arrived, the ship Lieth before this Town that brought them: I wish, you have not cause to repent, that you came not along with them. They had a very good Passage, and so had the *London Ship*; they are both in the River at this time. I understand by *Thomas Budd*, that he did satisfie you as near as he could, of the Truth of things *here*; and you had

as

as much reason to believe him, as that other person, and more too; for *Thomas* had far more Experience of this Place, than he (I say) could have in the short time he was among us. So of these things, I shall forbear to write any farther at present; and with my true love to you all, my *Friends*, with my hearts Desire for your Welfare every way, *&c.* I rest

Your True & Loving Brother,

To the Truth of the Contents of these Things, we subscribe, our Names,
Daniel Wills, Thomas Olive,
Thomas Harding, Thomas Budd,
William Peachey.

John Crips.

An Abstract of a Letter from Daniel Wills *to* William Biddle; (*Then Living in* Bishops-gate-Street *in* London; *who with his Wife and Family, is this present 5th. Moneth,* 1681. *with several Servants, gone for* New-Jersey.

Dear Friend!

I Received thine by *Henry Salter*, but it came too late to my hand; so that I could not write any thing in answer untill this time. I understand thou would'st know something from me concerning *New-Jersey*, which indeed I had given thee a large account of, without thy desiring; only *Joseph Hempstey* satisfied me, that he had done it. Let every Man write according to his Judgment; and this is Mine, concerning this *Country*: I do really believe it to be as good a *Country*, as any Man need to dwell in; and it is much better than I expected every way. For Land I will assure thee, here is as good by the Judgment of Men, as any is in *England*. And for my part, I like the *Country* so well, and it is so Pleasant to me, that if I had a good Estate in Land in *England*, I should not come to live upon it: For through Industry, here will be all Things produced, that are necessary for a Family, as is in *England*; and far more easier, I am satisfyed. When I am walking alone, and the *Lord* is with me, and the Sense of His good Dealings is brought before me, I cannot but admire Him for His Mercies; and often in secret bless His Name,

 that

that ever He turn'd my Face hitherward; and gave me Confidence in Himself, and Boldness by Faith to oppose all Gain-sayers, though never so strong. Although then I could not say, I had a Call or Command to leave the Land of my Nativity: Yet now of a Truth I can say, the *Lord* removed me there-from; and in what I did, I had Peace in Him. And in all my Exercises by *Sea* and *Land*, I never felt the least Matter in me, as to desire I had not come forward; but rather rejoyced in the *Lord*, in the midst of all. Though my Removal was not ordinary, because of the Largeness of my Family; yet, blessed be the Name of the *Lord*, all is well to our Content. So if thou heedest every ones Sayings, thou wilt have work enough: I heeded none, but the *Lord*. My Resolution was, and my Sayings to several Opposers, That I would come; if *God* hindered me not, no Man should. I have writ about the 26*th*. of the 9*th*. Month, to *John Mullinex*, and *Edward Cooper*, largely, concerning the *Country*; thou maist write to them to have a Copy of it, if it comes to hand before This, which I some thing question.

And now, my Dear Friends, and Antient Acquaintance (*William*, and *Sarah Biddle*) My Love you may feel beyond Expression. And if you have Clearness to come to *New-Jersey*, let nothing hinder; but if you have a Stop upon your Spirits, let not any thing farther you, until the *Lord* clears your Way. In this my Waiting I do assure you, I deny my self; for, if *I* might, *I* should write to forward you; but *I* dare not. Though you may understand by my Letters, how it is with Me and Mine, and many Others; I know, if a Man cannot Live here, I do believe he can hardly live in any Place in the World. This being the Place set before Me of the *Lord*, and if He gives Length of Dayes, I will see what He will afford me in it. The last Ship that came to *New-York*, brought several Passengers; some of which came to see this *Country*, and liked it well. So, *Dear Friends*, you may stand against all Opposers concerning the *Land*; for it is Good.

Subscribed,

Burlington, the 16*th*. *of the* 11*th*. *Moneth*, 1679. Daniel Wills.

An Extract of a Letter written by William, *and* Ruth Embly, *to* Samuel Racles *of* Nottingham, *from* Burlington, *in* New-Jersey.

Loving Friend,

AFter dear Love to thy Self, and Wife, and rest of *Friends*: This may acquaint you, we all crossed the *Seas* very shortly and pleasantly. My Wife was pretty well Aboard, in respect of her Condition, and was Delivered of a Girl in *Delaware-River*, did very well, and is very well content and satisfyed with the *Country, &c.* We are now going to settle a Town at the *Falls*, a Place reported (and credited) to be without Compare to any other yet known: None equal for pleasant Healthful Air, Lovely Scituation; second to none for Fertility. The Next, *I* hope, shall inform you more: Our Love to *Friends*, &c.

Subscribed,

William, & Ruth Embly.

From the Falls *of* Delaware *in* New-Jersey, *the* 12*th. of the* 6*th, Month,* 1680.

Mahlon Stacy's *Letter to* George Hutcheson.

Dearly Beloved Friend, & Brother!

IN the Blessed Truth of *Jesus* do *I* dearly Salute Thee, thy dear Wife, and all tender *Friends*, with whom *I* have been Conversant, and amongst whom my Spirit hath been Refreshed; my dear Love in the *Lord* salutes them all, desiring as one travelling for the Good and Prosperity of all that love the *Lord Jesus*; that Grace, Mercy, and Peace from *God* the Father; and our *Lord Jesus Christ*, may be multiplyed amongst them abundantly, that they all may be compleatly furnished, wanting nothing, being made able to stand in the Stormy Day, which is hasting on to try the Foundation of all Professions: In which it shall be said, *Woe to the Wicked*; *for it shall*

go ill with them in that Day, when they ſhall come to receive the Reward of their Doings. But to the Righteous, it may be well ſaid; *It ſhall go well with you, even all of you, that have born the Name of* Jeſus; *for the Reward of my Love is given you, ſaith the* Lord; *and great ſhall be your Peace and Portion for ever.* Amen.

Dear Friend, Thine of the 23*d.* 11*th. Moneth,* 1679. *I* have Received with great Gladneſs and Acceptation, as a Token of thy endeared Love and Care, with thy tender Deſires for us, and grave Counſel to us: all which *I* dearly accept of, knowing it was the Flowings-forth of a Soul fil'd with Love to the Heritage of *God* in theſe Parts. For the watering of whom, *God* has fil'd the Hearts of His Servants with His pure Love, precious Life, and Streams of Living Refreſhment, for the Comforting of *Jacob* in his Travels and Tryals, and for the gladding of *Iſrael* in the Day of Exerciſe. So, although we are ſeparated as to the Outward, (a little Scattering as I may ſay) yet the *God* of Life abounds in His Love to His little Flock, dayly extending His Peace (as a *River*) to His Remnant; *And is determined of a ſmall Number, to make a Great and Strong Nation:* And this I plainly ſaw before *I* left my Native Country; and the *Lord* is mightily bringing it to paſs, in His Removing the *Heathen* that know Him not, and making Room for a better People, that fears His Name. 'Tis hardly credible to believe, how the *Indians* are waſted in *Two* Years Time; and eſpeciall the laſt *Summer:* and how the *Engliſh* are increaſed both in Cattle and Corn, in a little time. Things go exceeding well with *Friends*, ſince they were ſettled, and our Meetings are duely Kept. The *Lord* our *God* is with us, and the Shout of a *King* is amongſt us, *Glory, Glory to the Lord our God for ever!* I perceive you have ſtrange Reports concerning Us, and our *Country*; yet our Condition is far otherwiſe than is repreſented unto you: for our *Land* yields its Strength to us in a plentiful manner, and we enjoy Fulneſs of Good Things: The greateſt Want is that of our *Friends*; yet the *Lord* is adding to our Number greatly; *and in a ſhort Time, this Place will be Populated. Friends* are generally Healthful and Well. Mine, and my Wifes dear and tender Love ſalutes Thee and Thine, with all the Faithful in the *Lord*; and that the Fountain of the Love of *God* may be your dayly Refreſhment and Conſolation, prayeth

Thy Endeared, & Loving aſſured Friend,

Mahlon Stacy.

An

An Abſtract of a Letter from Thomas Harriſon *to his Brother; wherein he writes of many Private Things: But of the Country, in ſhort, thus.*

Dear Brother!

THis is a Pleaſant *Country*, the *Woods* are like a *Garden*; for all ſorts of *Flowers* and *Herbs* grow in them, and *Strawberries*, and other *Fruits* in abundance; and our Land far exceeds *England* for one Thing; For *Three* Pecks of *Wheat* will ſow an Acre of this Land, which in *England*, *Two* Buſhels will hardly do it. I cannot expreſs all Things, that we have in this *Country*.

Dear Brother, Pray ſend me a *Braſs-Compaſs*, with a *Dyal* for this *Latitude*; whereby the more eaſie to find the marked Trees of my own Land, from other Men's. Few in this *Country* have done more than I have. I ſhall have fenc'd and clear'd a Quarter of a Mile this *Summer*. I have ſet *Four* Acres of *Indian-Corn*; and in the *Fall*, I ſhall Plow *Twelve* Acres of *Wheat*, and *Six* of *Peaſe*. I, and my Family are very well; and, for my own part, never better in all my Life; for I never †*Coughed* ſince I came into this *Country*.

†*Who was greatly troubled with a Cough heretofore.*

Burlington, 27th. of March, 1681. [*Who has not been There above a Year, and an half; & being a poor Man, had not any Servants.*]

Subſcribed,

Thomas Harriſon.

An Abſtract of Mahlon Stacy's *Letter to his Brother* Revill, *and ſome Others; Dated the 26th. of the 4th. Moneth,* 1680.

BUt now a word, or two of thoſe ſtrange Reports you have of Us, and our *Country*; I affirm, they are Lyes in the very Ground of them, and ſpoken from a Spirit of Envy: It is a *Country*, that produceth all things for the Support, and Suſtenance of Man, in a

plentiful

plentiful manner. If it were not so, *I* should be ashamed of what *I* have before written: But *I* can stand, having Truth on my Side, against and before the Face of all Gain-sayers, and evil Spies. *I* have Travelled through most of the Places that are settled, and some that are not; and in every Place, *I* find the *Country* very apt to answer the Expectation of the Diligent. *I* have seen *Orchards* so loaden with *Fruit*, *I* have wondered to see it, their very Limbs torn in pieces with the weight of their *Fruit*; and most Delicious to the Taste, and Lovely to behold. *I* have seen an *Apple-Tree* from a *Pippin-Kernel*, yield a Barrel of curious *Syder*; and *Peaches* in such plenty, that some People took their Carts a *Peach*-gathering: *I* could not but smile at the Conceit of it. They are a very delicate *Fruit*, and hang almost like our *Onions* that are tyed on Ropes. *I* have seen and known this *Summer Forty* Bushels of good *Bold-Wheat*, of *One* Bushel sown: And many more such Instances *I* could bring, which would be too tedious here to mention. We have from the Times call'd *May* until *Michaelmas*, great store of very good *Wild-Fruit*; as *Strawberries*, *Cramberries*, & *Huckle-berries*, which are like our *Bil-berries* in *England*; but far sweeter: They are very wholsome *Fruits*; the *Cramberries* much like *Cherries* for Colour and Bigness, which may be kept till *Fruit* come in again; an Excellent Sauce is made of them for *Venison*, *Turkies*, and other great *Fowles*; and they are better to make Tarts, than either *Gooseberries*, or *Cherries*: We have them brought to our Houses, by the *Indians*, in great plenty. My Brother *Robert* had as many *Cherries* this Year, as would have loaded several Carts. It is my Judgment, by what *I* have observed, That *Fruit-Trees* in this *Country* destroy themselves, by the very Weight of their *Fruit*. As for *Venison*, and *Fowles*, here are great plenty: We have brought Home to our Houses by the *Indians*, *Seven* or *Eight* Fat *Bucks* of a day; and sometimes put by as many, having no Occasion for them. And *Fish* in their Season very plenteous: My Cousin *Revill*, and *I*, with some of my Men, went last *Third* Moneth called *May*, into the *River* to catch *Herrings*; for at that time they come in great Shoals into the Shallow's; we had neither Rod, nor Net; but after the *Indian* Fashion, made a round Pinfold about *Two Yards* over, and a Foot high; but left a Gap for the *Fish* to go in at, and made a Bush to lay in the Gap to keep the *Fish* in: and when that was done, we took *Two* long Birches & tyed their Tops together; & went about a Stones-cast above our said Pinfold: Then hauling these Birches Boughs down

the

the Stream, where we drove *Thousands* before us; But so many got into our Trap as it would hold; and then we began to haul them to Shoar, as fast as *Three* or *Four* of us could, by *Two* or *Three* at a time; And after this manner, in half an Hour, we could have filled a *Three-Bushel* Sack of as good and large *Herrings*, as ever I saw. And as to *Beef* and *Pork*, here is great plenty of it, and good cheap; and also, good *Sheep*. The common Grass of this *Country* feeds *Beef* very Fat; *I* have Kill'd *Two* this Year; and therefore, *I* have reason to know: Besides, *I* have seen this *Fall*, in *Burlington*, Kill'd *Eight* or *Nine* Fat *Oxen* and *Cows* on a Market-Day, and all very fat. And though I speak of *Herrings* only, and lest any should think we have little other sorts, we have great plenty of most sorts of *Fish*, that ever *I* saw in *England*; besides several other sorts that are not known *here*; as *Rocks*, *Cat-Fish*, *Shoads*, *Sheep-Heads*, *Sturgeons*: And *Fowls* plenty; as *Ducks*, *Geese*, *Turkies*, *Swans*, *Pheasants*, *Partridges*; and many other sorts that I cannot remember, and would be too tedious to mention. Indeed the *Country*, take it as a *Wilderness*, is a brave *Country*; Though no Place will please all; but some will be ready to say, *He writes of Conveniences, but not of Inconveniences*: In answer to these, I honestly declare, Here is also some Barren Land; as (*I* suppose) there is in most Places of the World; and some Wood, than some would have upon their Lands: Neither will the *Country* produce Corn without Labour, nor Cattle be got without something to buy them, nor Bread with Idleness; else it would be a brave Country indeed: And *I* question not, but that all then would give it a good Word. For my part, *I* like it so well, that *I* never had the least Thought of returning to *England*, except on the Account of Trade.

Subscribed,

Walton Entry.

In another Letter to William Cook *of* Sheffield, *and some Others, he writes thus.*

THis is a most brave Place, what ever Envy or Evil Spies may speak of it. *I* could wish you all here. *Burlington* will be a Place of Trade quickly; for here is way for Trade. *I*, with *Eight* more;

more, last *Winter*, bought a good *Ketch* of *Fifty Tun*, freight her out at our own Charge, and sent Her to *Barbadoes*, and so to sail to *Saltitudo*, to take in part of Her Loading in *Salt*, and the Rest in *Barbadoes* Goods as She came back: Which said Voyage She hath accomplished very well; and now Rides before *Burlington*, discharging Her Loading; and so to go to the *West-Indies* again: And we intend to Freight Her out with our own Corn. We have wanted nothing since we came hither, but the Company of our Good *Friends* and *Acquaintance*. All our People are very well, and in a *Hopeful* way to *Live* much better, than ever they did; and not only so, but to provide well for their Posterities. They improve their *Land*, and have *Good Crops:* And if our *Friends* and *Country*-Men come, they will find better Reception, than We had by far at first, before the *Country* was settled as now it is. *I* know not one amongst the People, that desires to be in *England* again; *I* mean, since settled. *I* wonder at our *York-shire* People, that they had rather Live in Servitude, and work hard all the Year, and not be *Three Pence* the better at the Years End, than stir out of the Chimney Corner, and transport themselves to a Place; where, with the like pains in *Two* or *Three* Years, they might know better things.

Well, my *Friend*, *I never repented my Coming hither*, nor yet remembred thy Arguments, and Out-cry against *New-Jersey* with regret. *I* live as well to my Content, and in as great Plenty, as ever *I* did, and in a far more likely way to get an Estate; though *I* hear, some have thought *I* was too large in my Former; *I* affirm it to be true; having seen more with mine Eyes in this time since, than ever yet *I* wrote of.

To George Hutcheson *he writes,*] That he hath Built a *Water-Mill*, that is judged to be the *Best* in *America*; and that, though most of his Servant's Time had been spent in Building; yet last Spring he had got a great quantity of *Land* cleared, and Fallowed, which he intended to Sow this *Fall* with *Wheat* and *Rye:* That his Brother *Robert* had this Year as good a *Crop* of *Corn*, as ever he had in his Life.

From the Falls *of* Delaware, *in* West-New-Jersey, *the 26th. of the 4th. Moneth*, 1680. } Mahlon Stacy.

The

The Extract of a Letter from Samuel Jennings, *One of the Commiſſioners in* New-Jerſey, *ſince the* Cuſtoms *were taken off, and* Government *Settled: Directed to* William Penn, Edward Billinge, *or* Gawen Lawry.

Dear Friends!

THis may give you an Account of Mine, and my Families ſafe Arrival in *New-Jerſey*, with all the Reſt that came forth with us: I might ſay ſomething concerning our Paſſage at *Sea*; but I wave it for want of Time: and, in fine, can ſay all was well; for which, I bleſs *God*, and the *Lord* keep us all ſenſible of it, with the reſt of His Mercies for ever.

Dear Friends!

About *Six* Weeks ſince, we arrived in *Delaware-River*; where I expected to have met with a Combat in the Denyal of *Cuſtoms*. In our Paſſage at *Sea*, I had communicated to all, that had any conſiderable *Cargoe* on Board, the Opinion of *Counſel* concerning the illegal Demand thereof, with what elſe I thought might be for their Information; which thus far prevailed, that moſt, if not all concerned, ſeemed reſolved to deny the Paying of *Cuſtom* here, having paid all the *King*'s Duties in *England*. In good time we came to Anchor in *Delaware*; where one *Peter Alrick* came Aboard to us, and brought a *Handſome Preſent* to our *Commander*, and ſent for me into the *Round-Houſe*, where They both were; and *Peter* told me, He had nothing to ſay to Us, relating to † *Cuſtoms*; he had no Commiſſion for it, nor did he know of any Body that had. So we had all our Goods ſafely Landed, after this unexpected eaſie manner.

† *This* Peter Alrick *was the Perſon that formerly uſed to Collect the Cuſtoms.*

[*But a Letter was writ by Sir* John Werden; *declaring, That the Cuſtomes were taken off, and the Port for ever made Free, and the Government ſettled.*]

Friends, In purſuance of the Truſt committed to me, after my Arrival, I acquainted thoſe nominated in the Commiſſion with me of it: But, in a ſhort time after, I received Your Letters, giving an Account of a New Grant obtained, wherein the *Cuſtoms* are taken off,

a Free *Port* confirmed, and the *Government* ſettled on *Edward Billinge*; the which, I doubt not, will be very acceptable to every Honeſt Man. But, as yet, I have not had time to let the People, in general, know it. And now, ſeeing the *Ports* are made legally Free, and the *Government* ſettled, I would not have any thing to remain, as a Diſcouragement to *Planters*. Here are ſeveral good and convenient Settlements already; and here is *Land* enough, and Good enough, for many more. I ſhall give a farther Account of all Things as Opportunity preſents; I cannot do it now, the Meſſenger being in ſuch haſte, which forceth me to a Concluſion.

Subſcribed,

New-Jerſey, the 17th. of Octob. 1680.

Samuel Jennings.

A Letter wrote to Mr. **Edward Billinge,** *Governor of* Weſt-New-Jerſey.

Sir,

NOw, that illegal Impoſition of *Cuſtoms* is taken off, the *Port* and *Country* made free, and the *Government* thereof ſettled on Your Self; I may honeſtly affirm: That the *South* and *South Weſtern Parts* of *New-Jerſey*, lying on the *Sea* & *Delaware-River*, may be made one of the *Beſt Colonies* in *America*, for the Situation, Air, and Soyl; Ports and Creeks, for good *Harbors* and *Havens*, are not inferior to any; but as Good and *Better*, than moſt in theſe Parts of the World; having not fewer than *Thirty Navigable Creeks*, ranging themſelves at convenient Diſtance upon the Sea, and that moſt ſtately River of *Delaware*; ſome flowing *Five*, ſome *Eight*, ſome *Ten*, ſome *Fifteen* or *Twenty* Miles up into the *Country*: And not one of theſe Creeks, but is a good Situation for a Town both for *Trade* & *Delight*. Neither wants the *Inland-Country* great Plenty of *Delightful Freſh Rivers*, and moſt delicate Springs in abundance. And yet it is not theſe Springs and Rivers, Creeks and Ports alone, that makes *New-Jerſey* exceed moſt of her Neighbours for Situation, and Healthyneſs of Air; but the general Boldneſs of her Shoars, with the Natural Aſcent, or Gradual Riſing of the *Land* from the *South-Sea* to the utmoſt, or extream Points of its moſt *Northerly* Extent; which from *South* to *North*, (that is to ſay, from the Mouth to the

Head of that never-too-often to be mentioned goodly *River* of *Delaware*) is about *Two Hundred* and *Fifty* Miles; at whose large expanded Mouth, begins the Separation betwixt *New-Jersey*, and *Mary-Land*; and about *Eighty* Miles farther up, in a more contracted manner, gently divide betwixt *You*, & a very good Tract of Land; the which, if settled with good Neighbours, and under a right Authority, would be vastly Advantageous to Yours both in Commerce and Defence: For that there being already a pretty considerable quantity of *Swedes*, *Finlanders*, and *Dutch*, seated on that Tract of *Land* along by the *River*-side; and who, through a good *Government* over them, in time may become very good Neighbours; at least, much better than at present they are.

But, *Sir*, I think it was highly your Advantage, that you found few or no Inhabitants settled in *New-Jersey*; so that you had none to new-mold, displace, or remove, contend or quarrel with: None being seated, or to settle there, but by mutual Concessions, and a Grant for their *Land*, first had and obtained under Hand and Seal. And likewise, before you sat down in any Part of the *Country*, your giving Order to buy the *Lands* of the *Natives*, and give them real Satisfaction for the same, was a most Christian and Prudent Act; and by which means you are assured of their Love and Friendship for ever; And the *Poor Creatures* are never the Worse, but much the Better, as Themselves do confess; being now supplyed by the *English*, in the way of Truck and Trade, with whatsoever they want or stand need of. And they Hunt and Fish, as heretofore, except in Enclosed or Planted Ground.

But it may be demanded, Why these *Dutch* and *Swedes*, especially some of the *English* that came lately, should seat on the Other Side of the *River*, rather than in *New-Jersey*? The only Reason, as a Reason, that I can give, was because of the Custome imposed at *New-Jersey* heretofore, and the Government not being settled, as now it is.

And moreover, the Land on the other side next the *River* (upon which these People are set down) for the most part is a deeper Soyl, and less Wood upon it, than upon some of the Land on your side over against it; for that much of the richest Soil, and best Land in *New-Jersey*, lyeth not upon the very Brink of the *River*, but somewhat backward into the *Country*; which is a conveniency of no small value to such Planters, who truly understand the erecting, and setling of *Colony's* next the Water-side in these Parts. For it is the heighth of

the Land and Shoar's, and not the miry depth of the Soil, that makes *Burlington*, and the many Miles above and below it (where are many good settlements besides) so wholsome an Air, and free from the *Mosquito's*, *Agues*, *Feavors*, &c. And although I say the Soyl be not so deep on *Jersey* side next the *River*, yet I am sure there are as good *Corns*, and *Fruits* of all sorts, as ever I saw, or heard of in any of these parts of *America*. Likewise, *Sir*, I suppose you want not to know, by information, that the *Rivers* and *Riv'lets* I mentioned are abundantly plenish't with all the Kinds of the *Fish* and *Fowl* of *England*, and several that you have not, and much better. Also the Land breeds good *Horses*, good *Sheep*, and good *Deer*, and *Swine* in abundance, and as large *Oxen*, and *Cowes* as in any parts of *England*, and the *Flesh* eats much better, especially the *Pork* and *Venison*. Sir, I make no question, but you have heard as much as all this, and a great deal more concerning the Situation, growth, and product of New *Jersey* (and which may truly be said.) But it is possible I may inform you of one particular, that you may not have minded, which is that this *Country*, being bounded on the *West* with *Delaware*, on the *South* with the main *Ocean*, and on the *East* with *Hudson's* River, some of whose *North-West* Branches do almost shake hands with the most *North-Easterly* branches of *Delaware*, and in a manner clasp the whole Province about, until they reduce it somewhat into the form of a blunt wedge, so that with a small charge (considering the advantage,) New *Jersey* from a *Peninsula* may be made an entire *Island*. But however as it is, with the Methods you have taken for the setting thereof: for instance; that incomparable way of dividing the whole *Country* into a hundred propriety's (whereby every individual Purchaser hath a share of the good, and the bad) is away so just and equal, that not any plantation in these parts at present doth, or for the future in that point, can ever come near it, because of their promiscuous or confused settling at their first sitting down. And then as to Your Government (a free holder being Annually to be chosen out of each of these hundred proprieties, and as the Representatives thereof to sit, and freely Act in the Parliament, or general Assembly, where all grievances are to be heard and redressed, and where all Laws (agreeable to those immutable fundamentals agreed on in your general concessions) for the inviolable preservation of liberty and property are to be made. All which, are such prittine and certain methods for maintaining the just right and equal utility of the whole Community, that I do not see the

most

most Capricious can assign, wherein it is either faulty in exceeding, or deficient in falling short of the most Ancient true English, and best Christian Government in the World. Wherefore I am satisfied it will not now be long before *New-Jersey* be peopled.

And, *Sir*, since the Government thereof is settled in so Generous and Worthy a Hand as your own, at which I can assure you, very many Honest and Sober People in these Parts, as well as those more direct of your Own Way, greatly rejoyce, and fervently desire to see you in *America*; but for ought I know, none more than doth,

SIR,

Your Faithful Friend to Serve You,

20th. Arill, 1681.

Robert Smythe.

AN EXTRACT Out of a Small Treatise,

Wrote By

BEAUCHAMP PLANTAGENET,

Concerning The

Province of **New-Albion**, in the Year, 1648.

Since Granted by the *King* to the *Duke of York*; Of which **New-Jersey** is a Part.

IN his *Epistle*, *(pag.* 4.*)* he adviseth to follow Old *Cato's* Rule, *To seat in a pure Healthy Air*; else, after all Charges of Settling and Building, the People Dye, and their Posterity Extinguish. *Secondly*, *To sit down upon a Navigable-River for Trade and Supply.* For this Reason, I (on my View) disliked *Virginia*; most of it being seated scatteringly, and among *Salt-Marshes* and *Creeks*, worse than *Essex-Thanet* and *Kent*, for *Agues* and Diseases; *Brackish-Waters* to Drink and Use, and a Flat *Standing-Water* in *Woods* breed a double Corrupt *Aire*; so the *Elements* are Corrupted.

Chapter the 2*d. Page the* 18*th. &* 19*th.*

WHereas that Part of *America* lying about *Thirty-Nine* Degrees, at *Delaware-Bay*, is Situate in the best and same Temper; and as *Italy*, between too Cold *Germany*, and too Hot *Barbary*;

bary; so *This* lying mid-way between *New-England Two Hundred* Miles *North*, and *Virginia* a *Hundred* and *Fifty* Miles *South*, is freed from the Extream Cold and Barrenn ſs of the One, and Heat and Anguiſh-Marſhes of the Other; and is like *Lombardy*, a Rich Fat Soyl and Plain; and having *Thirty-Four Rivers* on the main Land, an ſ partaketh of the Healthieſt Air, and moſt Excellent Commodities of *Europe*; and repleniſhed with the Goodlieſt *Woods* of *Oaks*, and all Timber for *Ships* and *Maſts*. *Mulberries* for *Silk*, ſweet *Cypreſs*, *Cedars*, *Pines*, and *Furs*; *Four* ſorts of *Grapes* for *Wine* and *Raiſins*; and great variety of choice *Fruits*, *Fiſh*, and *Fowl*; ſtored with all ſorts of *Corn*; yielding *Five*, *Seven*, and *Ten* Quarters on an Acre; *Silk-Graſs*, *Salt*, Good *Mines*, and *Dyers-Ware*; *Five* ſorts of *Deer*, *Buffs*, and Huge *Elkes* to Plow and Work, bringing *Three Young* at once. The *Uplands* covered many Months with *Berries*, *Roots*, *Cheſ-nuts*, *Wall-nuts*, *Beech*, and *Oak* Maſt for them, *Hogs*, & *Turkies*, *Five hundred* in a Flock. Many *Thouſands* of Acres of plain *Mead-Land*, fit for *Corn*, *Rice*, *Flax*, *Hemp*, &c. And that this is the True State of the Country lying on the *Bay* and *River* of *Delaware*, he affirms, is teſtifyed under the ſeveral Hands of thoſe who had been, and Traded there: And is farther witneſſed by Capt. *Smith*, *New-England's* Proſpect, Capt. *Powell's* Map, and other Deſcriptions of *New-England* and *Virginia*.

Subſcribed by

Capt. *Brown*.
Capt. *Claybornе*.
Robert Evelin.
Stuffond.
Conſtantine.
Stratton.
Thomas White.
Richard Bachham.
Chriſtopher Thomas.
Edward Maningham.
Tenis Paley.
Edward Rhodes.

Page the 20, 21. of the ſame Treatiſe.

An Extract of Robert Evelin's *Diſcription of the Land lying between the* Rivers *of* Delaware, *and* Hudſons River;

The which is Now called New-Jerſey.

THat *Ocean Sea* I take to be about one hundred & ſixty miles, and I find ſome broken Land, *Iſles* and In-lets, and many ſmall *Iſles*, at

Hook Harbor, but going to *Delaware*-bay by *Capt. May*, (which I understand is very well set out in Captain (*Powels* Map) on that *North*-side about five miles up within, is a *Port* or *Road* for any Ships called the *Hook*. And Twelve *Leagues* higher a little above the *Bay* and *River*, is the *River* of *Manteses*, which hath Twenty miles on *Charles River*, and *Thirty* Miles running up a fair Navigable deep *River*; all a flat level of rich, fat, black Mold, which I think to be about 300000 Acres.

Next above, about Six Leagues, is a Fair deep River, Twelve Miles Navigable, where is Free-stone. The next *Assomachick River*. The next is *Etsiwomick*, a *King* of Forty men. And five miles above the *King* of *Ramock*; and four miles higher the *King* of *Axon*, And next to him Ten *Leagues* over-Land and *Inland King* of *Calcefar*. And Six *Leagues* higher is a Creek call'd *Mosilion*; and then we come to the Falls, made by a Rock of Lime-stone; & I suppose it is about Sixty five *Leagues* from the *Sea*, near to which is an *Isle* fit for a City, all Materials there ready to † build. And above the *Falls* the *River* is Fair and Navigable; as the *Indians* inform'd me, for I went but Ten Miles higher. I do account all the *Indians* to be about eight hundred. I saw there an infinite Quantity of *Buffands*, *Swans*, *Geese* and *Fowl*, covering the shoars. As within Land, the like multitude of *Pheasants*, and store of *Turkeys*; of which I tryed one to weigh Forty Six pounds. There is much variety and plenty of delicate Fresh and Salt *Fish*. And *Elks*, and *Dear* that bring three young ones at a time. And the woods are strewed many Months with *Chesnuts*, *Wall-Nuts*, and *Mast* of several sorts to feed them. The Barren grounds have four kinds of *Grapes*, and *Mulberrys*, with *Ash*, *Elme*, and the Tallest and greatest *Pines*, and *Fir-Trees* that I have seen. There are several *Wild Fruits*; as the pine *Apple*, the dainty *Parsemmas*, &c. I shall entreat you to believe me as a Gentleman and a Christian, I write nothing but the truth. *Subscribed*, Robert Ebelin.

† Upon which Isle, Burlington is now built.

POST-SCRIPT

THere might have been Publish'd at least a Hundred Letters or Testimonies more very lately written from the Inhabitants of New-Jersey, in Praise of that Country, AND NOW [illegible] which for brevity is omitted, lest any should be tempted or perswaded without due Consideration, to undertake for New-Jersey as they find it. Therefore, before any determine a Removal to New-Jersey, let them weigh and consider the Matter well. And that all may see what clear Reports went for therein; is the Unfeigned Desire of the Publisher hereof.